May 30, 1958

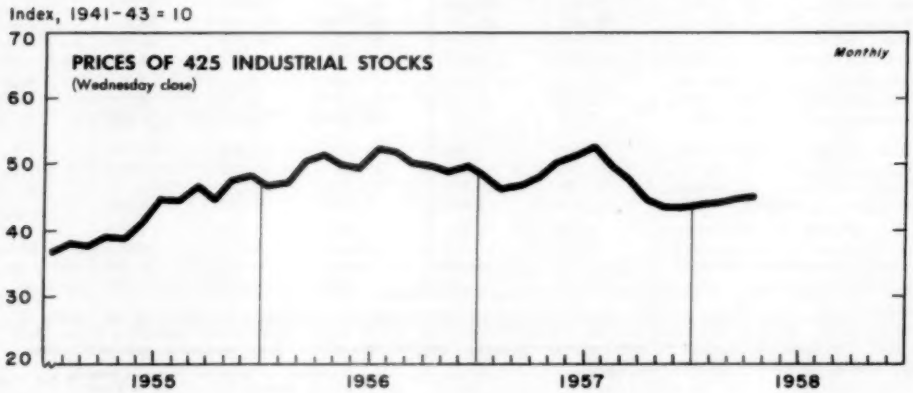
BUSINESS STATISTICS

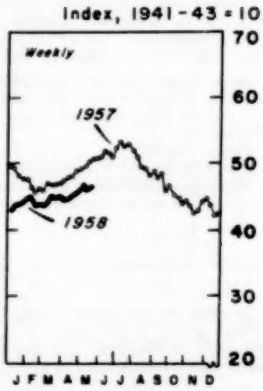
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ☆ OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS ☆
NATIONAL INCOME · BALANCE OF PAYMENTS · SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

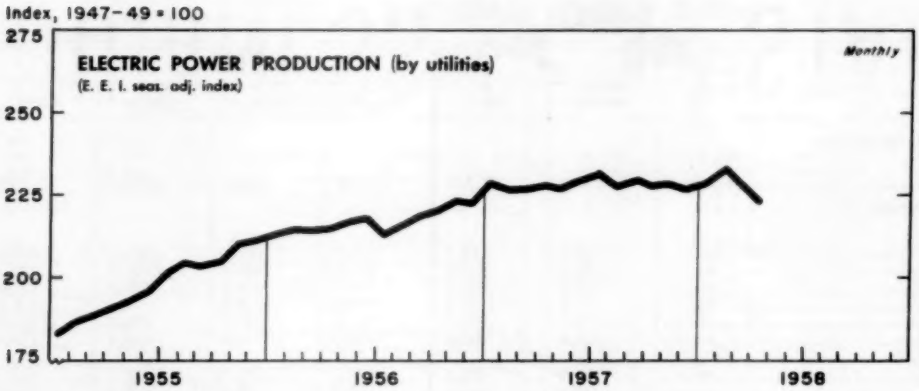
A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

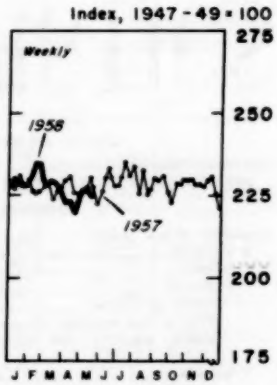
Available only with subscription to the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, at $4.00 annually, this Supplement provides selected weekly and monthly data subsequent to those published in the latest monthly SURVEY

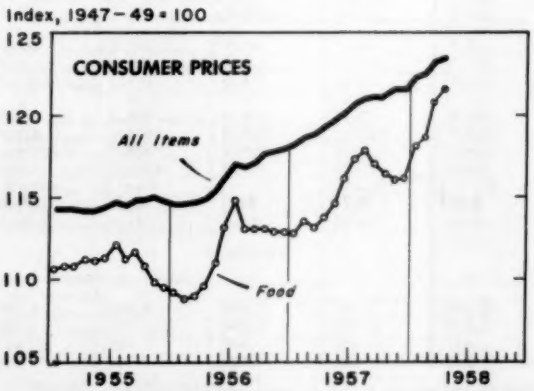
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

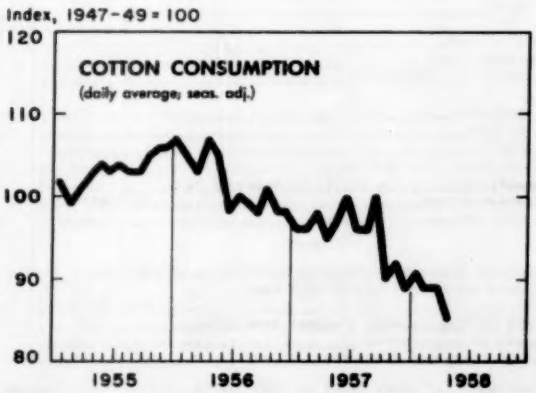












WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1957		1958			
	May 18	May 25	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*117.1	.....	119.3	119.5	119.3
Farm products.....do....	.....	*89.5	.....	97.7	98.6	97.3
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*104.9	.....	112.0	112.8	113.0
All other.....do....	.....	*125.2	.....	125.4	125.4	125.2
22 commodities 2/.....do....	87.6	88.3	84.1	84.4	85.5	85.7
Department store sales 3/.....do....	129	124	132	138	127	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,435	1,357	3,414	3,319	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	1,346	1,270	3,156	3,064	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	264	309	336	279	327	337
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 4/.....mil. of dol..	30,654	30,645	30,518	30,659	30,812	30,822
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 4/.....do....	25,031	25,070	24,566	24,763	24,854	25,016
Member bank reserve balances 4/.....do....	18,845	18,818	18,249	18,276	18,190	18,248
Excess reserves, estimated 4/.....do....	477	534	660	690	629	648
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: 5/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	55,057	55,151	55,699	54,915	54,706	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	23,276	23,356	27,295	27,444	27,519	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	85,905	85,626	92,483	91,973	91,785	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	25,221	25,114	30,548	30,496	30,511	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)....do....	31,569	31,328	30,185	30,129	30,093	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,669	8,664	8,746	8,757	8,774	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 4/.....percent..	4.02	4.03	3.99	4.00	4.00	4.00
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 5/...1941-43=10..	46.83	47.14	43.44	43.93	43.12	43.55
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	50.17	50.53	46.22	46.80	45.84	46.32
Production:						
Bituminous coal 4/.....thous. of short tons..	1,587	1,579	1,058	1,042	1,195	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	11,519	11,574	11,251	11,315	11,257	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	150,528	150,835	96,251	95,944	104,162	104,125
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 4/.....thous. of bbl..	7,511	7,457	6,227	6,250	6,262	.....
Steel 6/.....thous. of short tons..	2,155	2,212	1,289	1,334	1,412	1,523
Percent of capacity.....	84.2	86.4	#47.8	#49.4	#52.3	#56.4
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	722	723	533	535	561	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	350	343	292	288	297	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Revised series; not comparable with data in issues prior to May 9, 1958. 4/ Daily average. 5/ Wednesday data. 6/ Week beginning May 26, 1958: Production, 1,526 thous. short tons; operating rate, 56.5 percent. * Monthly index for May 1957. # Based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons); not comparable with 1957 rates which are based on January 1, 1957, annual capacity (133,459,150 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1957		1958			
	March	April	January	February	March	April
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Business incorporations:						
New incorporations (48 States).....number..	12,049	12,312	13,080	10,466	11,670	11,329
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index:						
All items.....1947-49=100..	118.9	119.3	122.3	122.5	123.3	1/123.5
Apparel.....do....	106.8	106.5	106.9	106.8	106.8	106.7
Food.....do....	113.2	113.8	118.2	118.7	120.8	121.6
Dairy products.....do....	110.7	110.5	114.6	114.5	114.1	112.5
Fruits and vegetables.....do....	116.1	118.7	121.9	124.4	130.7	136.6
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do....	100.6	102.0	110.2	112.0	114.4	115.9
Housing.....do....	124.9	125.2	127.1	127.3	127.5	127.7
Gas and electricity.....do....	112.4	112.4	115.7	115.9	115.9	116.0
Housefurnishings.....do....	104.9	105.1	104.2	104.9	103.9	104.0
Rent.....do....	134.4	134.5	136.8	137.0	137.1	137.3
Medical care.....do....	136.4	136.9	141.7	141.9	142.3	142.7
Personal care.....do....	122.9	123.3	127.8	128.0	128.3	128.5
Reading and recreation.....do....	110.5	111.8	116.6	116.6	117.0	117.0
Transportation.....do....	135.1	135.5	138.7	138.5	138.7	138.3
Private.....do....	125.2	125.5	128.4	127.9	128.0	127.6
Public.....do....	175.8	176.8	182.4	185.4	185.9	186.1
Other goods and services.....do....	124.2	124.2	127.0	127.0	127.2	127.2
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by--						
Wholesale prices.....1947-49=100..	85.5	85.3	84.1	84.0	83.5	2/83.8
Consumer prices.....do....	84.1	83.8	81.8	81.6	81.1	2/81.0
FINANCE						
Agricultural loans and discounts outstanding of agencies supervised by the Farm Credit Adm.:						
Total.....mil. of dol..	3,120	3,185	3,363	3,404	3,464	3,527
Farm mortgage loans: Federal land banks.....do....	1,817	1,836	1,925	1,934	1,947	1,958
Loans to cooperatives.....do....	423	411	456	442	428	413
Other loans and discounts.....do....	880	938	982	1,028	1,089	1,155

r/ Revised. 1/ Index based on 1935-39=100 is 206.5. 2/ Indexes based on 1935-39=100 are as follows: Measured by--wholesale prices, 43.9; consumer prices, 48.4.

12884

ITEM	1957 March	1957 April	1958 January	1958 February	1958 March	1958 April
FINANCE - Continued						
Federal Reserve banks, condition, end of month:						
Assets, total....mil. of dol..	51,016	51,494	51,428	51,159	50,731	51,315
Reserve bank credit outstanding, total....do....	24,970	24,960	24,352	24,330	24,570	24,672
United States Government securities....do....	23,149	23,169	23,331	23,240	23,628	23,681
Gold certificate reserve....do....	21,627	21,635	22,104	22,099	21,804	21,409
Liabilities, total....do....	51,016	51,494	51,428	51,159	50,731	51,315
Deposits, total....do....	19,835	19,983	19,956	19,785	19,650	19,516
Member-bank reserve balances....do....	18,629	18,864	18,958	18,667	18,532	18,254
Excess reserves (estimated)....do....	117	276	415	481	633	p657
Federal Reserve notes in circulation....do....	26,454	26,323	26,711	26,559	26,537	26,375
Reserve ratio....percent..	46.7	46.7	47.4	47.7	47.2	46.7
Federal Government finance:						
Receipts, total....mil. of dol..	12,145	6,142	5,243	7,756	11,182	6,039
Receipts, net....do....	10,737	4,256	4,786	6,299	9,501	3,496
Customs....do....	66	65	69	58	69	68
Individual income taxes....do....	2,868	3,646	3,034	4,741	2,658	3,584
Corporation income and profits taxes....do....	7,327	520	486	406	6,538	476
Employment taxes....do....	692	633	385	1,302	680	722
Other internal revenue and receipts....do....	1,192	1,278	1,270	1,249	1,237	1,189
Expenditures....do....	5,584	5,987	6,011	5,528	5,749	6,122
Interest on public debt....do....	601	604	693	606	616	613
All other expenditures....do....	4,983	5,383	5,318	4,922	5,133	5,508
Life insurance written (new paid-for insurance):						
Value, estimated total....do....	5,653	5,907	5,402	4,860	5,688	5,436
Group and wholesale....do....	1,158	1,510	1,554	944	1,319	964
Industrial....do....	563	569	428	459	509	509
Ordinary....do....	3,932	3,828	3,420	3,457	3,860	3,963
Security markets (Standard and Poor's Corporation):						
Bonds:						
Prices:						
Industrial, utility, and railroad (A1+ issues):						
Composite (21 bonds)....dol. per $100 bond..	104.4	104.3	105.9	105.7	105.0	105.3
Domestic municipal (15 bonds)....do....	110.0	109.8	110.0	109.1	107.9	110.0
Stocks:						
Dividend yields, preferred stocks, 14 high-grade..percent..	4.46	4.47	4.36	4.38	4.42	4.37
Prices:						
Combined index (500 stocks)....1941-43=10..	44.03	45.05	41.12	41.26	42.11	42.34
Industrial (425 stocks)....do....	46.86	48.06	43.98	44.01	44.97	45.09
Capital goods (129 stocks)....do....	46.56	48.26	43.00	43.32	43.60	42.61
Consumers' goods (196 stocks)....do....	32.08	32.67	31.43	31.60	32.35	32.78
Public utility (50 stocks)....do....	32.45	33.03	33.30	34.12	34.57	35.54
Railroad (25 stocks)....do....	29.37	29.78	22.69	23.00	22.60	23.20
Banks:						
N. Y. City (12 stocks)....do....	19.50	19.40	19.08	19.55	20.21	20.26
Outside N. Y. City (17 stocks)....do....	38.87	38.82	37.98	38.87	39.56	40.17
Fire insurance (17 stocks)....do....	27.80	28.38	25.88	26.81	27.49	27.36
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Organic chemicals, production:						
Acetic acid (synthetic and natural)....thous. of lb..	41,136	32,738	47,517	39,710	40,210	.....
Acetic anhydride....do....	76,985	64,305	80,808	78,233	71,259	.....
Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin)....do....	1,208	1,570	2,144	1,778	1,931	.....
Creosote oil....thous. of gal..	9,796	10,414	8,506	7,339	8,540	.....
DDT....thous. of lb..	11,522	11,766	10,451	10,793	11,881	.....
Ethyl acetate (85%)....do....	6,371	7,420	6,281	5,314	6,198	.....
Ethylene glycol....do....	89,577	97,156	106,806	94,875	89,167	.....
Formaldehyde (37% HCHO)....do....	111,620	105,163	111,467	104,663	110,881	.....
Methanol:						
Natural (100%)....thous. of gal..	197	193	165	167	.....	.....
Synthetic (100%)....do....	18,701	16,647	18,197	16,965	18,585	.....
Phthalic anhydride....thous. of lb..	27,080	30,226	25,436	22,638	27,340	.....
Synthetic plastics and resin materials, production:						
Cellulose acetate and mixed ester plastics:						
Sheets, rods, and tubes....do....	4,253	3,823	3,564	3,283	3,823	.....
Molding and extrusion materials....do....	8,289	7,168	6,138	6,677	7,653	.....
Nitrocellulose sheets, rods, and tubes....do....	379	357	348	290	278	.....
Other cellose plastics....do....	500	528	874	671	736	.....
Phenolic and other tar acid resins....do....	39,816	35,442	38,813	32,500	32,802	.....
Polystyrene....do....	51,041	48,871	41,701	42,216	45,228	.....
Urea and melamine resins....do....	25,910	24,217	25,630	21,871	23,901	.....
Vinyl resins....do....	70,419	67,640	68,977	58,327	62,326	.....
Alkyd resins....do....	31,879	32,382	27,927	r25,805	25,883	.....
Rosin modifications....do....	9,951	10,508	10,340	r8,643	8,506	.....
Polyester resins....do....	8,618	8,961	7,533	7,910	8,637	.....
Polyethylene resins....do....	56,587	51,793	69,522	r61,801	64,575	.....
Miscellaneous....do....	15,428	15,711	15,677	r12,938	14,356	.....
FOODSTUFFS						
Meats, production, total....mil. of lb..	1,932.0	1,866.0	2,050.6	1,622.0	1,719.7	1,804.4
Beef and veal....do....	918.1	906.1	998.1	789.7	809.5	839.0
Lamb and mutton....do....	49.5	50.6	52.3	47.4	50.2	57.8
Pork, including lard....do....	964.4	909.2	1,000.2	784.9	859.9	907.7
Lard....do....	190.8	182.1	193.4	146.5	154.5	165.2

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

12884

ITEM	1957		1958			
	March	April	January	February	March	April
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	7,246	6,870	4,854	4,064	4,464	3,827
Machine tools (metal-cutting and metal-forming):						
New orders (net), total.....mil. of dol..	72.75	64.30	26.85	28.30	r36.15	p28.25
Domestic.....do....	64.60	57.45	22.00	23.75	r29.80	p20.65
Shipments, total.....do....	115.60	110.65	57.80	48.05	r54.15	p51.20
Domestic.....do....	103.35	97.00	50.80	43.15	r48.50	p44.40
Estimated backlog.....months..	5.2	4.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	p2.6
Vacuum cleaners, standard type, sales billed.....thousands..	312.7	281.6	265.5	225.6	291.4	247.3
Washers, domestic, sales billed 1/.....do....	286.2	230.7	238.2	263.1	278.9	218.6
Radio sets, production 2/.....do....	1,609.1	1,115.8	1,026.3	876.9	931.3	p654.1
Television sets (incl. combination), production 2/.....do....	559.8	361.2	434.0	370.4	416.9	p315.4
PAPER AND PRINTING						
Newsprint, Canada (including Newfoundland):						
Production.....thous. of short tons..	574.2	554.8	498.3	473.8	521.8	522.6
Shipments from mills.....do....	526.5	538.4	474.8	435.2	471.1	532.7
Stocks, at mills, end of month.....do....	200.8	217.3	155.9	194.6	245.2	235.1
Newsprint, United States:						
Consumption by publishers.....do....	463.3	442.3	385.9	364.7	434.4	423.3
Production.....do....	164.4	162.4	157.0	140.4	148.4	148.6
Shipments from mills.....do....	161.2	162.6	158.8	138.7	151.0	149.2
Stocks, end of month:						
At mills.....do....	11.2	11.0	17.6	19.3	16.7	16.0
At publishers.....do....	580.2	592.6	602.0	612.2	590.7	588.4
In transit to publishers.....do....	107.8	100.9	108.1	107.5	99.1	106.5
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Cotton: 3/						
Consumption.....bales..	690,310	809,727	799,800	639,635	632,022	729,546
Manufactures:						
Spindle activity (cotton system spindles):						
Active spindles, last working day.....thousands..	19,990	r19,888	19,606	19,615	19,367	19,208
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	18,457	18,365	17,950	17,945	17,682	17,602
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total...mil. of hr..	9,396	r11,299	11,045	8,843	8,643	10,221
Average per working day.....do....	470	r452	442	442	432	409
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	8,731	10,461	10,199	8,161	7,984	9,451
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT						
Railway equipment, American Railway Car Institute:						
Freight cars:						
Shipments, total.....number..	9,774	9,016	7,371	5,511	6,072	5,311
Equipment manufacturers, total.....do....	5,613	5,253	4,988	3,721	4,592	3,778
Domestic.....do....	5,613	5,253	4,836	3,526	4,426	3,630
Railroad and private-line shops, domestic.....do....	4,161	3,763	2,383	1,790	1,480	1,533
New orders, total.....do....	3,199	6,453	401	287	202	278
Equipment manufacturers, total.....do....	817	6,404	375	208	201	178
Domestic.....do....	817	6,404	375	208	201	178
Railroad and private-line shops, domestic.....do....	2,382	49	26	79	1	100
Unfilled orders, end of month.....do....	108,990	106,472	49,370	44,138	38,249	32,982
Equipment manufacturers, total.....do....	48,337	49,540	19,797	16,276	11,854	8,232
Domestic.....do....	47,055	48,258	19,214	15,888	11,632	8,158
Railroad and private-line shops, domestic.....do....	60,653	56,932	29,573	27,862	26,395	24,750

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Data exclude sales of combination washer-dryer units; sales of such types totaled 11,800 units in April 1958. 2/ Data for March 1957 and March 1958 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks. 3/ Data for April 1957 and January and April 1958 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

USCOMM-DC-12884

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
DIVISION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

FIRST CLASS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, $300

UNIVERSITY MICROFILMS
313 N FIRST STREET
ANN ARBOR MICH
CS JAN